

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RESTORING FIRST AMENDMENT PROTECTIONS OF RELIGION AND RELIGIOUS SPEECH

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation restoring First amendment protections of religion and religious speech. For fifty years, the personal religious freedom of this nation's citizens has been infringed upon by courts that misread and distort the First amendment. The framers of the Constitution never in their worst nightmares imagined that the words, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech. . . ." would be used to ban children from praying in school, prohibit courthouses from displaying the Ten Commandments, or prevent citizens from praying before football games. The original meaning of the First amendment was clear on these two points: The federal government cannot enact laws establishing one religious denomination over another, and the federal government cannot forbid mention of religion, including the Ten Commandments and references to God.

In case after case, the Supreme Court has used the infamous "separation of church and state" metaphor to uphold court decisions that allow the federal government to intrude upon and deprive citizens of their religious liberty. This "separation" doctrine is based upon a phrase taken out of context from a letter written by Thomas Jefferson to the Danbury Baptists on January 1, 1802. In the letter, Jefferson simply reassures the Baptists that the First amendment would preclude an intrusion by the federal government into religious matters between denominations. It is ironic and sad that a letter defending the principle that the federal government must stay out of religious affairs. Should be used two hundred years later to justify the Supreme Court telling a child that he cannot pray in school!

The Court completely disregards the original meaning and intent of the First amendment. It has interpreted the establishment clause to preclude prayer and other religious speech in a public place, thereby violating the free exercise clause of the very same First amendment. Therefore, it is incumbent upon Congress to correct this error, and to perform its duty to support and defend the Constitution. My legislation would restore First amendment protections of religion and speech by removing all religious freedom-related cases from federal district court jurisdiction, as well as from federal claims court jurisdiction. The federal government has no constitutional authority to reach its hands in the religious affairs of its citizens or of the several states.

As James Madison said, "There are more instances of the abridgement of the freedom of the people by the gradual and silent encroachment of those in power, than by violent

and sudden usurpation." I sincerely hope that my colleagues will fight against the "gradual and silent encroachment" of the courts upon our nation's religious liberties by supporting this bill.

HONORING CHARLOTTE EDMUNDSON FOR HER 47 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CHILLICOTHE STATE BANK IN CHILLICOTHE, MISSOURI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charlotte Edmundson, vice-president and head of customer service for the Chillicothe State Bank in Chillicothe, Missouri. Charlotte has exemplified the finest qualities of leadership and service and is being honored for her 47 year commitment to the bank and the citizens of Chillicothe.

Charlotte is well known among staff and patrons of the bank for going above and beyond customer service standards, when dealing with both banking and non-banking issues. She interacts on many levels with everyone she comes in contact with and maintains the highest degree of professionalism and honesty. She prides herself on getting her job done right and getting it done on time.

During her years with the bank, Charlotte attained knowledge of the customer service department and the bank's operations that made her an exemplary employee heavily relied upon by management and fellow bank staff. Her coworkers have described her as honest, reliable, helpful, trustworthy and professional.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending the career of Charlotte Edmundson, who exemplifies the qualities of dedication and service as both an employee and citizen of Chillicothe, Missouri.

HONORING THE JENKINTOWN LIBRARY ON ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Jenkintown Library on its 200th anniversary.

Established in 1803, the Jenkintown Library is now the third oldest library in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. For two centuries it has been a center for community learning and is still satisfying the changing needs of the area. The library's vast collection contains books, periodicals, DVD's, and other forms of multimedia. The library also offers programs that reflect the diverse interests of the community it serves.

It is fitting that the Jenkintown Library is celebrating its bicentennial next week, as it corresponds with National Library week. National Library week is a time to recognize and highlight the contributions of both libraries and librarians for connecting people with the resources that they need to live and to learn. It also recognizes libraries as a place for education, self-help, and opportunity, something that the Jenkintown Library exemplifies.

Two hundred years after its founding, the Jenkintown Library still retains its architectural beauty and has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1979. Throughout its long history, the library has been able to keep up with the needs of the community, and I am confident that the library will continue to contribute for many years to come. I am grateful for the service that the library has provided to not only the citizens of Jenkintown but to all Montgomery Countians.

HONORING JULIE INMAN OF ORANGE COUNTY FOR RECEIVING THE CLARA BARTON SPECTRUM AWARD

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Julie Inman of Orange County for receiving the Clara Barton Spectrum Award.

The Clara Barton Spectrum Award, given by the Red Cross, was awarded to eight outstanding women in Orange County.

Julie was honored for founding SupportAbility, a non-profit organization that raised \$11,000 for scholarship that went to 14 students who have overcome great adversity.

Julie herself is not unfamiliar with overcoming adversity. When she was 15 years old, Julie suffered a massive stroke. Doctors told her she would never speak again. Three years later, she graduated from Mater Dei High School.

Julie has dedicated herself to helping others beat the odds. Her courage has served as inspiration for many.

Let this young lady's accomplishments serve as an example of the wonderful things our young people are capable of achieving.

I wish her the best of luck in the future.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN STEIN

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, last week the United States Air Force lost six servicemen

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and women in Afghanistan when their helicopter crashed while on a humanitarian mission to evacuate two injured children. Lieutenant Colonel John Stein of western Illinois was among those killed. I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate his life, commend his remarkable bravery, and extend my sincerest condolences to his family, friends, and loved ones. He will be missed.

A Bardolph native, John Stein began dating his wife, Barbara (Nelson) Stein, while the two were students at Macomb High School. He graduated in 1981, she in 1980. Macomb High School principal Michael Sartore remembers Stein as a quiet, hard-working, dedicated student. A career military officer, Lt. Col. Stein resided with his family at Moody Air Force Base in Valdosta, Georgia. The couple has three children: Doug, 17, Erin, 13, and Timothy, 11. His mother, Hazel Henry, still lives in Macomb.

Lieutenant Colonel Stein was a helicopter pilot with the 41st Rescue Squadron at Moody Air Force Base, a part of the 347th Operations Group specializing in rescuing downed pilots behind enemy lines. Kelly Friday, a childhood friend, said that even in high school Lt. Col. Stein wanted to be a helicopter pilot. "Any goal he set out to achieve, he mastered it," he recalled. "He was very intelligent; anything he touched he mastered."

On behalf of the communities in western and central Illinois, I would like to extend my thoughts and prayers to the Stein family at this difficult time. Lieutenant Colonel John Stein's courage in serving his country will not soon be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING DUSTIN WRIGHT FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dustin John Wright, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dustin has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp for five years, and the BSA snorkeling and ranger programs. Over the 10 years he has been involved in scouting, Dustin has earned 35 merit badges. Additionally, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as patrol leader, assistant patrol leader, and troop's chaplain aide. Dustin also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Parvuli Dei Catholic Religious Award, the Ad Altare Dei Catholic Religious Medal, the Arrow of Light Award, the World Conservation Award, and the Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say Award.

For his Eagle Scout project, Dustin constructed and installed a handrail for a bridge, and improved 150 feet of trail with gravel at the Heartland Presbyterian Center in Parkville, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dustin John Wright for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of Amer-

ica and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

INTRODUCTION OF PRO-LIFE LEGISLATION

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce three bills relating to abortion.

First, the Freedom of Conscience Act of 2003 prohibits any federal official from expending any federal funds for any population control or population planning program or any family planning activity. It is immoral to force the American taxpayers to subsidize programs and practices they find morally abhorrent.

Second, I rise to introduce the Partial-birth Abortion Funding Ban Act of 2003. This bill prohibits federal officials from paying any federal funds to any individual or entity that performs partial-birth abortions. The taxpayer must not be forced to fund this barbaric procedure.

Finally, my Life-Protecting Judicial Limitation Act of 2003 provides that the inferior courts of the United States do not have jurisdiction to hear abortion-related cases. Congress must use the authority granted to it in Article 3, Section 1 of the Constitution. The district courts of the United States, as well as the United States Court of Federal Claims, should not have the authority to hear these types of cases.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will join me in support of these three bills. By following the Constitution and using the power granted to the Congress by this document, we can restore freedom of conscience and the sanctity of human life.

HONORING ROCKLEDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Rockledge Volunteer Fire Company on its one hundred years of service to that community.

Many things have changed for the company since its founding in 1903. It has grown from a single wagon pulled by the firefighters themselves to a small fleet of trucks capable of meeting all fire fighting needs. While it was once reliant on others to help put out its fires, the Rockledge Volunteer Fire Company is now large enough to lend its services beyond the town borders of Rockledge.

The fire company has become a staple in Rockledge, and its members have always been active in the community that they served. The late Jules Ceigekowski served in the company for seventy years, and Robert Snyder, a former police and fire chief in Rockledge just celebrated sixty years of service in 2002. In addition, the fire company offers junior memberships to those under the age of 18.

Since its beginning, the Rockledge Fire company has been based on volunteerism,

community, and caring for others. I firmly believe that it is those three principles that will continue to carry the company and its members for many years to come, and I am grateful for the service the company continues to provide to the citizens of Rockledge. Again, I congratulate the Rockledge Volunteer Fire Company on its 100th anniversary.

APPLAUDING THE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS OF THE TEACHERS AND FACULTY AT THE ORANGE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, IN SANTA ANA, CALI- FORNIA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the fundraising efforts of the teachers and faculty at the Orange County High School of the Arts, in Santa Ana, California.

Like many schools across the nation, the Orange County High School of the Arts is facing serious budget concerns. Forecasting \$600,000 in cuts, a number of janitors, clerical and cafeteria workers were laid off. School officials announced that many more teachers could be laid off during the school's second semester.

In spite of these dire outlooks, teachers are leading a fund-raising effort that has raised \$73,000 so far to prevent more layoffs and increases in class sizes.

In a band called "Will Play for Food," teachers are selling out concerts to raise money. Some have even donated back their raises.

These teachers are going above and beyond their duties to maintain a high quality education at their schools. Our teachers should be using their energy to improve the performance of their students, instead of performing to keep their jobs.

The bottom line is that we are leaving our children and our teachers behind. If we want to stimulate the economy and improve our country's future, the best investment we can make is the education of our youth.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL EVAN JAMES

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, last week western Illinois lost one of its sons in the war against Iraq, and I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate his life, commend his bravery, and extend my condolences to his family, friends, and loved ones. Corporal Evan James, a member of the Marine Corps Reserves Unit based in Peoria, Illinois, made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. While his unwavering commitment to this nation and its ideals are an inspiration, it is a tragedy that this young, promising life was cut so short. He will be missed.

Corporal Evan James, 20 years old, was born to Mike and Donna James of LaHarpe, Illinois. A 2000 graduate of LaHarpe High

School, he played basketball while there and was a guard and outside linebacker on the Thunder football team. After graduation, Cpl. James joined Company C of the 6th Engineer Support Battalion to help pay for college. He was studying to be a physical fitness trainer at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. James' unit was fully mobilized on January 14, 2003 and he was deployed to the Persian Gulf in February. According to Gunnery Sergeant James Howard of the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center in Peoria, Evan James achieved his corporal's rank faster than most Marines, and was very professional with leadership abilities beyond his age. Captain John Bruzza called James a model Marine and a good leader who performed well above his pay grade. James' aunt Diane Kornegay said this about her nephew: "They wanted a few good men and in Evan they got the best If you met him you would love him. He was that kind of person and we're just very proud of him for the person he was."

On behalf of the communities in western and central Illinois, I would like to extend my thoughts and prayers to the James family at this difficult time. Corporal Evan James' courage in serving his country will not soon be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER
KENNALEY FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Robert Kennaley, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp for 7 years, the Philmont High Adventure and the Packard High Adventure. Over the nine years he has been involved in scouting, Christopher has earned 33 merit badges. Additionally, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as three time patrol leader and assistant senior patrol leader. Christopher also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the member of the Order of the Arrow, the Parvuli Dei Catholic Religious Award, the Ad Altars Dei Catholic Religious Medal, the Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say Award and the World Conservation Award.

For his eagle scout project, Christopher designed and constructed a fence on the side of a storage shed at St. Therese Catholic Church in Parkville, MO.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Robert Kennaley for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FLOYD SPENCE POST OFFICE
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2003

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the late Congressman Floyd Spence and to commend his extraordinary career as a servant to the nation and to the people of South Carolina. Floyd was a true leader dedicated to preserving the American way of life, and he did so for over forty years in both the South Carolina state delegation and the United States House of Representatives. Serving as the chairman for the House National Security Committee from 1995–1999 and for the Armed Services Committee from 1991–2001, he was an advocate for heightened national security and for increased military funding. He drew his passion for the military from his own personal experiences of serving in the navy reserves for more than forty years. It was no secret that defending the nation was his top political priority. Congressman Spence was also an ardent voice against big government, which kept his platform focused on the needs of his fellow South Carolinians and away from that of sweeping federal legislation.

It is well fitting that the facility of the United States Post Office in Lexington, SC, honors Congressman Spence's memory by bearing his name. He was deeply committed to public service, a leader of our nation, and a passionate supporter of national defense. We all mourned his loss when he passed away and can still feel his absence during this time of national crisis. I am proud to say that his diligent efforts as Chairman of the Armed Services Committee have helped prepare the nation for the present war and we all owe Congressman Spence a debt of gratitude for his work in shaping the military into what it is today. Seldom will you ever find a truer American than Floyd Spence, and I am proud to have served with him in Congress and to call myself a fellow South Carolinian.

TRIBUTE TO DR. AND MRS. FRANK
LIGHT

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize Dr. and Mrs. Frank Light for their many contributions to health care in my district and around the world.

As a member of Rahway Hospital's Medical/Dental staff since 1973 and long-time trustee of the Rahway Hospital Foundation, Dr. Light is a very active member within his hospital community. Dr. Light is also an active member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists as well as former board member and president of the John E. Rannels County Hospital and the Family and Children's Society, Counseling, Testing and Adoption Center.

In addition to their contributions within the hospital community, Dr. and Mrs. Light have

dedicated their time to helping provide free health care to needy children around the world through Healing the Children Midlantic, Inc. As a member of the International Relations Committee, I am very aware of the need for quality medical care for children around the world, and am extremely appreciative of Dr. Light's efforts over the past twenty-five years as part of a medical team that has traveled to many countries to provide such medical services.

Dr. and Mrs. Light have also provided a home to many children while they undergo medical treatment and surgery in this country. They are able to give love to these children while they are far away from their loved ones as well as support while they undergo medical procedures. Dr. and Mrs. Light have dedicated their lives to bettering the lives of children around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representative join me today as I recognize Dr. and Mrs. Light and their innumerable contributions to the medical community and to the health and future of children around the world. It is selfless acts such as these that set an example for the rest of the world.

NORTHERN IRELAND PEACE AND
RECONCILIATION SUPPORT ACT
OF 2003

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of more than 25,000 of my constituents who are of Irish descent, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1208, which recognizes the importance of funding the peace process in Northern Ireland.

The people of Ireland, the people of Great Britain are long-standing friends and allies of the United States and the American people. In these difficult times, we are deeply grateful for their partnership in the coalition against terror and their invaluable contributions in the war in Iraq.

Our investment in the International Fund for Ireland contributes to strengthening relations and creating thousands of new jobs and businesses for Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland. Importantly, more than 80 percent of the Fund's contributions have targeted disadvantaged areas by offering job training programs for unemployed youth and through the economic, social, and physical regeneration of deprived areas.

We should continue to support the Fund's community-building programs promoting greater dialogue and understanding between Catholics and Protestants. We should also help advance the Fund's role in the development of a new generation of leaders in Northern Ireland in order to bring about a more peaceful and prosperous future in the region.

The Good Friday Agreement of 1998, which called for basic human rights and marked the first meaningful step toward reconciliation in Northern Ireland was suspended last year. Elections in May will determine the future prospects of the agreement, which makes this resolution especially relevant and timely.

Mr. Speaker, our shared goal with Ireland is for all Catholic and Protestant families to live

in peace, free from discrimination, terrorism, and intolerance. That is why I strongly support fully funding the International Fund for Ireland and encourage my colleagues to vote for this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, between March 11, 2003 and March 31, 2003, I was intermittently absent for several rollcall votes having undergone corrective back surgery.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

Rollcall Vote No., Description, Vote

- 50, Observer status for Taiwan—"yea."
- 51, 60th Anniversary—Rescue of Bulgarian Jews—"yea."
- 52, Arme y Room—"yea."
- 53, Approving the Journal—"yea."
- 54, Bicentennial Admission of Ohio into the Union—"yea."
- 55, Need for improved fire safety in nonresidential buildings—"yea."
- 56, Hospital Mortgage Insurance Act of 2003—"yea."
- 57, Automatic Defibrillation in Adam's Memory Act—"yea."
- 58, Mosquito Abatement for Safety and Health Act—"yea."
- 59, Organ Donation Improvement Act—"yea."
- 60, Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act—"yea."
- 61, On Ordering the Previous Question (H.R. 5)—"yea."
- 62, On Agreeing to the Resolution on H.R. 5—(Rule)—"yea."
- 63, On motion to Recommit—"no."
- 64, On Passage of H.R. 5 (HEALTH Act)—"yea."
- 65, Condemning the punishment of execution by stoning—"yea."
- 66, Nicaragua Property Dispute Settlement Act—"yea."
- 67, Addressing human rights abuses in North Korea—"yea."
- 68, Mortgage Servicing Clarification Act—"yea."
- 69, Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, California—"yea."
- 70, Rathdrum Prairie/Spokane Valley Aquifer—"yea."
- 71, Sherman Amendment to H.R. 975—"no."
- 72, Nadler Amendment to H.R. 975—"no."
- 73, Motion to Recommit H.R. 975—"no."
- 74, On Passage of H.R. 975, the Bankruptcy Act—"yea."
- 75, Approving the Journal—"yea."
- 76, Armed Forces Tax Fairness Act—"yea."
- 77, Ruling in *Newdow v. United States Congress*—"yea."
- 78, Hill Amendment to H. Con. Res. 95—"no."
- 79, Toomey Amendment to H. Con. Res. 95—"no."
- 80, Cummings Amendment to H. Con. Res. 95—"no."
- 81, Spratt Amendment to H. Con. Res. 95—"No."
- 84, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area—"yea."
- 85, Upper Mississippi River Basin—"yea."
- 86, On ordering previous question (H.R. 1104)—"yea."

- 87, Feeney Amendment—"yea."
- 88, Smith Amendment—"yea."
- 89, On passage of HR 1104—Child Abduction Prevention Act—"yea."
- 90, Recognizing need for fasting and prayer—"yea."
- 91, U.S. Armed Forces as POWs in Iraq—"yea."
- 92, Injuries resulting from smallpox vaccine—"yea."
- 93, Honoring Fayetteville, NC for the Festival of Flight—"yea."
- 94, Amend the Small Business Act—"yea."

RECOGNIZING PHILLIP SHINN FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Phillip George Shinn, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Phillip has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp for three years, and the Brownsea Junior leadership training in July of 2003. Over the seven years he has been involved in scouting, Phillip has earned 37 merit badges. Additionally, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as two-time patrol leader, den chief, scribe, instructor, and librarian. Phillip also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Member of the Order of the Arrow, The Light of Christ Award, the Parvuli Dei Catholic religious award, the Ad Altare Dei Catholic religious medal, and the Deutsch (a German interpreter).

For his Eagle Scout project, Phillip constructed and installed 30 road signs at Heartland Presbyterian Center in Parkville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Phillip George Shinn for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING GENCO FEDERAL CREDIT UNION'S FIFTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF CENTRAL TEXAS

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, in April 1953, a half century ago, the GENCO Federal Credit Union was created by a group of employees of the General Tire and Rubber Company plant in Waco, Texas to meet the financial needs of their fellow employees.

A credit union is "Democracy in Action"; a not-for-profit financial cooperative organized by people who share a common bond. All the members pool their assets to provide funds for loans to those in need within the membership.

The members own the credit union, electing directors from among the membership. Credit Unions are regulated either by Federal or State law, depending upon the source from which the group receives its charter. The principal function of credit unions is to encourage savings and thrift and provide consumers credit at favorable interest rates. GENCO FCU is federally chartered and regulated by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

In 1985, General Tire and Rubber Company's Waco plant shut down. But GENCO has continued to thrive and prosper. The board enlarged the credit union's field of membership to include employees of Musician's Association Local No. 306, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Waco Post No. 2148, AmVets Post No. 35, American Income Life Insurance Company, Mercury Tool, Hornet Manufacturing, Walker's Paint & Repair and Lockridge Priest.

In 1992, GENCO opened yet another chapter of its life when it purchased Lufkin Regional Federal Credit Union. Operating under a community charter, the organization is now able to serve anyone who lives or works in McLennan County in Central Texas or Angelina County in East Texas.

For five decades, the theme of loyalty has run consistently throughout GENCO's work, along with adherence to the principles of encouraging savings and thrift and providing working men and women credit at favorable interest rates. That fifty years of service and commitment to its community make the celebration of GENCO Federal Credit Union's 50th anniversary all the more special.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating GENCO Federal Credit Union's 50 years of service to the people of Central Texas.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HOSPITAL INVESTMENT ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Representative JERRY KLECZKA (who represents Milwaukee, WI and serves with me on the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee) and I share a strong concern about the growth of so-called "boutique" or "specialty" hospitals. These entities are springing up across the country, including across California and in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They are licensed under state law as hospitals, but instead of providing the wide array of services that traditional hospitals provide, they focus on a particular procedure or medical specialty. The medical specialties that are being chosen aren't the vital day-to-day hospital services on which communities depend like emergency rooms and burn units. Instead, they are the highly profitable segments of care—cardiac care and orthopedic surgery being two of the most common types of specialty hospitals.

Today, we are reintroducing a bill we first authored in the 107th Congress, the Hospital Investment Act. This bill addresses our concern that these specialty hospitals are skirting the spirit of the physician self referral laws, often called the Stark laws. Those laws allow physicians to invest in "whole hospitals" because the services provided in such a facility

are so broad that concerns about self referral conflicts are greatly minimized. But that is not the case for specialty hospitals.

Most specialty hospitals are jointly owned by the hospitals and groups of physicians who are referring patients to that hospital. Typically, these joint ventures are marketed only to physicians in a position to refer patients to the facility. In these situations, there is great potential for conflicts-of-interest for physicians who refer patients to facilities in which they have an ownership interest. These joint ventures may induce investor physicians to base their treatment decisions on profits generated by the facility rather than on the clinical needs of their patients. This is exactly the type of behavior the Stark laws were written to prevent.

The development of specialty hospitals is of great concern to our health care system and to communities across our nation because they deprive full-scale hospitals of their most profitable business, leaving those existing hospitals much worse off financially. The investors in these joint ventures and specialty hospitals skim the profits off full-scale hospitals, leaving them to struggle financially. Then the hospitals must look to Medicare and to their local communities to help them financially.

One of the biggest chains of heart hospitals in this country is a company called the MedCath Corporation. One needs only look at their financial statement to see that they recognize the level of concern felt around the nation about their line of business. Their 2002 10-K report highlights nervousness that regulators and legislators are catching onto their scheme. As the report states:

"Many states in which we operate also have adopted, or are considering adopting physician self-referral laws which may prohibit certain physician referrals or require certain disclosures." They also highlight specific concerns about our bill from the last Congress and go on to say that, "Possible amendments to the Stark law could require us to change the manner in which we establish relationships with physicians to develop a heart hospital."

MedCath is right to be nervous. Their business model not only harms hospitals and communities, it violates the spirit of Medicare self referral laws intended to prohibit such conflicted behavior that drives up costs and may produce unnecessary care. Lawyers for MedCath and many others have found a loophole in the self-referral laws, and physicians are taking advantage of it.

The bill we are introducing today would close that loophole. Our bill would continue to permit physician ownership in these joint ventures and specialty hospitals. But, that allowance is contingent on a new requirement that the ownership or investment interest is purchased on terms that are generally available to the public at the time. This change would not prohibit physicians from purchasing shares of stock. However, it would make sure that such stock purchases are not the result of a sweetheart deal available only to physicians and set up in a way to skirt the law.

If this bill is enacted, it will make it harder for specialty hospitals and physicians to skim profits from full-scale hospitals leaving it up to Medicare and local communities to foot the bill to assure that access to needed patient care isn't jeopardized.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to close this loophole in the Medicare physician self-referral laws, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 27, 2003, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 90 and 91. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 90 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Res. 153, Recognizing the public need for fasting and prayer; and rollcall vote 91 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Con. Res. 118, Concerning the treatment of members of the Armed Forces held as prisoner of war.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "present" on rollcall vote 90 and "aye" on rollcall vote 91.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT PETCOFF FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Robert Petcoff, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp for six years, the Philmont High Adventure and Troop Camping. Over the 12 years he has been involved in scouting, Matthew has earned 36 merit badges. Additionally, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as troop scribe, chaplain's aide, assistant patrol leader, troop guide, and troop trainer. Matthew also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Parvuli Dei Catholic Religious Award, the Ad Altare Dei Catholic Religious Medal, and the Warrior in the tribe of Mic-O-Say Award.

For his eagle scout project, Matthew created a landscaped flagpole area with a cement walkway for the Hills of Walden Neighborhood Clubhouse in Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Robert Petcoff for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CLOSE THE LOOPHOLE IN MEDICARE PHYSICIAN SELF-REFERRAL LAWS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman STARK and I are reintroducing legislation, the Hospital Investment Act, sponsored initially in the 107th Congress, to address serious concerns about conflicts-of-interest raised

by specialty or so-called "boutique" hospitals with physician-investor ownership arrangements.

Across the nation, there is a tremendous growth of boutique hospital construction. In the Milwaukee-area alone, there are three boutique heart hospitals under development. These facilities are not typical, general hospitals, which are prepared to meet the wide variety of health needs within a community. Instead, these entities specialize in one area of procedures, such as cardiac care or orthopedic surgery, that is high-volume and high-profit to these investor-owned facilities.

One major consideration with the proliferation of these boutique hospitals is the issue of self-referral, in which doctors send their patients to facilities where they have a preferential financial ownership stake. Current federal law forbids a physician from referring patients to health facilities—such as clinical laboratories, physical therapy groups, and radiology centers—in which he or she stands to financially benefit.

These Stark I and Stark II laws did provide one exception that allows physicians to self-refer patients to hospitals, as long as it is a "whole hospital" and not just a particular department or clinic within the facility. Since whole hospitals provide such a wide array of health services, there was minimal risk of conflict-of-interest. Unfortunately, this exception has become a loophole by which physicians can legally refer patients to freestanding boutique hospitals where they have a direct personal financial interest.

Typically, stakes in these boutique hospital ventures are marketed exclusively to doctors in a position to refer patients to the facility. This preferential interest creates an inducement for investor-physicians to overutilize services and base treatment decisions on profits rather than the medical needs of the patient. As we have seen in the past, these arrangements invariably lead to increased health care spending without necessarily increased quality of patient care. This is exactly the scenario that the Stark laws were designed to prevent.

Boutique hospitals also rob full-service community hospitals of their most profitable lines of business, leaving them to struggle to stay afloat financially. Without the high-profit surgical units to cross-subsidize the other less-profitable—but equally important—services like emergency and burn care, these hospitals will have to turn increasingly to the federal government as well as their local communities for financial assistance. Medicare, Medicaid, and other important programs, which are already stretched thin, should not be forced to take on this additional burden because these joint ventures are skimming off large profits for their investors.

The Hospital Investment Act of 2003 would close this loophole by prohibiting preferential hospital ownership terms for physicians. Under this legislation, physicians could continue to refer patients to joint ventures and specialty hospitals, but only if their ownership or investment interest is purchased on terms also available to the general public at the time. This would ensure that stock purchases are not a result of a special deal available only to physicians that gives them a preferential share of the profits.

Physicians and facilities found in violation of this act would be subject to a civil monetary

penalty of up to \$15,000 per prohibited referral plus twice the amount billed for the referred service. In cases where there was an arrangement or scheme to refer patients to facilities owned by the physician, penalties could be as high as \$100,000 and twice the amount billed for referred services. Also, the physician and specialty hospital would be denied participation in the Medicare program.

Mr. Speaker, we must close the loophole in the Medicare physician self-referral laws and halt this trend that threatens the sustainability of our local community hospitals. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for the three votes on March 31, 2003. I was attending a rally for the safe return of Sgt. James Riley of Pennsauken, NJ, a mechanic in the Army's 507th Maintenance Company who was among five soldiers captured in southern Iraq on March 23.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1166 and H. Con. Res. 58, and I would have voted against H.R. 1463.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BETHEL AME CHURCH

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church of Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania during its 125th anniversary celebration. Bethel AME is the oldest black church on the original Main Line, a suburb of Philadelphia.

Local minister John Hooper began Bethel AME in his home on Conestoga Road in 1878. He was joined by Mr. George Barrick, who continued the mission after Hooper died in 1880.

During the 1880s, Bethel AME petitioned the Philadelphia AME Conference for a pastor. The first permanent pastor, Reverend J.B. Hill, came to the congregation in 1888.

Although the Church now had a full-time pastor, it lacked a fixed place of worship. Too poor to purchase land for a church, congregants moved from place to place, worshipping wherever they could. Eventually Mr. Barrick and Mr. Samuel Curtis purchased a lot on Merion Avenue in Bryn Mawr. Residents of Bryn Mawr, both white and African-American, raised four thousand dollars to construct the church, which was finished in 1889. A parsonage and parish house were added later. They have since been converted to a fellowship hall for use by the entire Church community.

Currently under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Isiah H. Woods, Bethel AME Church is an important part of the Main Line community. The founding and development of the Church illus-

trate for us all what can be accomplished when people work together for a higher purpose. I encourage my colleagues to join me in saluting Bethel AME on reaching this milestone.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on March 31, 2003, I was unable to vote on H.R. 1463 (rollcall vote 92), H. Con. Res. 58 (rollcall 93), and H.R. 1166 (rollcall vote 94). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three measures.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT AND APPRECIATION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, as America moves forward with resolve to disarm Saddam Hussein, I rise in support of President Bush for his leadership and to honor our U.S. troops and their families for their dedication and sacrifice.

The time has come when the United States must again lead the world against those who threaten the freedom and stability of the free world. As our troops labor in military encampments at home and abroad, let us labor in prayer on their behalf and on behalf of all freedom loving people around the world.

After twelve years of Iraqi deception and non-compliance, an international coalition of over thirty countries is engaging in a military campaign to forcibly disarm Saddam Hussein. The Iraqi dictator has been given every possible opportunity to cooperate, to reveal his weapons of mass destruction programs, and to provide relief to the Iraqi people. He has failed to take advantage of multiple offers for a peaceful resolution. We do not enter into this campaign cheerfully, but with a somber resolve.

Our goal of liberating the Iraqi people from a tyrannical dictator will not be accomplished without the steely resolve and contributions of all Americans. Whether you are a soldier on the front line or a 'soldier' in America's economy, each person can contribute to our objective of achieving total disarmament and establishing peace.

This resolution expresses the unequivocal support of the President as Commander-in-Chief for his firm leadership and decisive action, the members of the United States Armed Forces serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom for their patriotism and bravery, and the families of the United States military personnel serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Together, with our allies around the globe and our Armed Forces overseas, we will stay focused on our mission and never waver from our objective—total disarmament, the end of Saddam Hussein, free-

dom for the Iraqi people, and peace in the region.

TRIBUTE TO SPC. GREG SANDERS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and honor that I pay tribute to an outstanding American, a true patriot, and a hero to his country, Spc. Greg Sanders. Spc. Sanders was killed in action on Monday, March 24, 2003 while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom for the 3rd Infantry Division of the United States Army. He bravely sacrificed his life to ensure the safety of his fellow soldiers, the Iraqi people, and the very idea of freedom throughout the world. He will be remembered at a candlelight vigil in his hometown of Hobart, Indiana on Wednesday, April 2, 2003.

Greg Sanders was a native of Hobart and graduated from Hobart High School in May 2001, where he thrived both as a student and as an athlete. An honor roll student and member of the Hobart High School track team, Greg was also named co-captain of his high school cross country team, which advanced to the regional finals in each of his last two seasons. Greg's outstanding motivational skills and unmatched charisma helped mold him into a natural leader. His work ethic propelled him to great accomplishments, both academically and athletically. It was this same work ethic, coupled with his dedication to the United States, which led Greg to commit to the United States Army during his junior year at Hobart High School.

Mr. Speaker, after completing his high school career, Greg was sent to Fort Knox, Kentucky for a grueling basic training. Although the physical and mental demands were extremely difficult, Greg remained undeterred in his lifelong desire to serve in the military. The son of a Naval veteran, Greg understood the hardships of military life and accepted them with the courage and fortitude befitting a soldier dedicated to the defense of his country. After completing basic training, Greg moved with his wife, Ruthann, to Fort Stewart, Georgia, where she later gave birth to their daughter, Gwendolyn. It was from here that Greg Sanders's journey to Iraq began.

Spc. Sanders deployed for Kuwait on January 23, 2003 as part of the 3rd Battalion of the 69th Armored Regiment. His duty was to load the 120 mm cannon on the M-1 Abrams tank as the armored caravan stormed through southern Iraq, a duty he carried out bravely and successfully until a sniper prematurely took his life. Greg dreamed of dedicating his life to the military, and he honored that unit on March 24, 2003 by sacrificing himself to preserve the values he treasured.

Although it was his lifelong dream to serve his nation as a career soldier, nothing was more important to Greg Sanders than his family. He is survived by his wife and daughter, his mother, Leslie, and his three siblings, Dean, Clare, and Lauryn, as well as a nation and a community who will never forget the sacrifice that he made to protect our freedom. His father, Rich Sanders, was a Navy veteran who died of a heart attack at the young age

of 37, and Greg looked to him for guidance and advice while contemplating a career in the military. Greg remained close to his family until his death, and he will never be forgotten by those he left behind.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the memory of Spc. Greg Sanders, and in sending our heartfelt condolences to his family. Greg is a hero, not only to his family and friends, but also to Northwest Indiana and to the United States of America. He fought bravely for the ideals of freedom, truth, and liberty, and as our nation mourns his loss, let us honor his life and his dedication to the service of his country.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH MYERS FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Michael Myers, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 261, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp for 8 years, H. Roe Bartle Summer Camp Staff Member, Seabase High Adventure and Snaus. Over the 13 years he has been involved in scouting, Joseph has earned 30 merit badges. Additionally, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Librarian, Historian, Instructor and Quartermaster. Joseph also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Member of the Order of The Arrow, The Parvuli Dei Catholic Religious Award, the Ad Altare Dei Catholic Religious Medal, and the Tom-Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say Award.

For his Eagle Scout project, Joseph imbedded water bars and spread gravel over a section of trail at the Parkville Nature Sanctuary in Parkville, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Michael Myers for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 92, 93, and 94 I missed the votes due to a delay in my airplane flight. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all.

REINTRODUCTION OF SAMPLING LEGISLATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce legislation that will ensure that future Censuses truly reflect the demograph makeup of this nation. This bill would clarify Section 195 of Title 13 U.S.C. to allow the most accurate numbers to be used for apportionment and all other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CRACK- DOWN ON DEADBEAT GUN DEAL- ERS ACT

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by 22 of my colleagues in introducing the "Crackdown on Deadbeat Gun Dealers Act" to hold licensed gun dealers accountable when they knowingly sell guns illegally.

Last year's tragic Washington, D.C., area sniper shootings provide a dramatic illustration of what many consider a lack of regulatory authority over the nation's estimated 104,000 licensed firearms dealers, which are overseen by just 600 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) inspectors who must also oversee breweries and tobacco plants among their other responsibilities.

Federal agents, who searched Bull's Eye Shooter Supply of Tacoma, Washington, last December, indicated in a court affidavit that 78 firearms listed in the store's inventory were missing and could not be traced through required sales records and other documents. Among the missing weapons was the rifle allegedly used by the two D.C. sniper suspects, John Allen Muhammad and John Lee Malvo. During the past few years, many weapons had simply vanished from the shop without an adequate paper trail—some of them possibly bound for people barred from owning firearms.

Unfortunately, the Bull's Eye case is not an isolated one. Statistics provided by the ATF in 1998 show that over 50 percent of the firearms used in crimes nationwide were traced to just 1.2 percent of the nation's gun dealers. By conducting crime gun traces, the ATF can analyze why such a large number of firearms from this small proportion of dealers are used illegally and develop investigative strategies to address this problem.

Currently, the ATF may inspect a licensed dealer's inventory and records without a warrant to ensure record-keeping compliance. The accuracy of a dealer's inventory is critical to the ATF's ability to trace crime guns. However, since 1986, criminal penalties for most dealer recordkeeping violations have been reduced from felonies to misdemeanors. In addition, current law restricts ATF to one compliance inspection of licensed dealers every 12 months. With the exception of violations committed by dealers in transferring firearms to prohibited individuals after national instant criminal background checks, the current law also generally limits ATF's administrative ac-

tions against dealers to revocation of the license.

The Crackdown on Deadbeat Gun Dealers Act will increase compliance and keep guns out of the hands of criminals by increasing the permitted number of annual compliance inspections by federal law enforcement inspectors of licensed firearms dealers; raising the maximum criminal penalty for dealers who knowingly violate the law by committing serious record-keeping offenses that can hinder tracing guns used in crimes; and authorizing \$320 million in grants for 5 years to hire 500 additional ATF inspectors.

Now more than ever, Americans are demanding protection and security, and some are purchasing guns in an effort to protect themselves and their families. But we must remember that others with more sinister motives can just as easily do the same. Real protection means providing authorities with the strongest possible mechanisms to prevent unlawful purchases.

I urge my colleagues to join me and the 22 original co-sponsors of this bill in holding licensed gun dealers accountable when they knowingly sell guns illegally. Please co-sponsor this responsible law enforcement measure, and help keep guns out of the hands of criminals.

HONORING ROBERT WILLIAM SAUNDERS, SR.

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Robert William Saunders, Sr. Last week, Bob lost his life to injuries from an automobile accident that occurred last month, and Florida lost a fearless champion for equal rights.

Bob was best known for his tireless efforts as field director of Florida's National Association for the Advancement of Colored People from 1952 to 1966. Bob took over after his predecessor, Harry T. Moore and Moore's wife, Harriette, were assassinated in a Christmas night bombing of their home—a crime which remains unsolved.

Undaunted, Bob gave Florida's NAACP his all, traveling throughout the state to organize local chapters and battling discrimination at every level. Bob helped organize bus boycotts, sit-ins, voter registration drives and protests, including the 1963 March on Tallahassee, staged just five months prior to the famous March on Washington. He fought for affirmative action and school integration and fought against police brutality and segregation at public beaches and housing.

Bob went on to serve for a decade as the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity's chief of civil rights for the Southeast, and to work as director of Hillsborough County's Office of Equal Opportunity. His unfailing and selfless dedication to the pursuit of equal rights, despite public rebuke and personal threats, earned Bob enormous respect throughout Florida, as well as an honorary doctorate in public service from the University of Tampa.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Bob's family. His groundbreaking efforts will not be forgotten.

KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a silent killer lurking among us and our children. That killer comes in the form of food-borne illnesses and affects 76 million people each year. Of those individuals, approximately 325,000 will be hospitalized and more than 5,000 will die. While many adults will be fortunate to avoid the devastating, lasting effects of food-borne illness, our children are especially vulnerable and comprise nearly 40 percent of the victims.

Each day, more than 27 million children eat lunches provided through the National School Lunch Act. Despite increased attention in recent years to the safety of those meals provided to our school children, there is evidence of serious problems with our school lunch system. Between 1990 and 2000, there were nearly 100 reported outbreaks of food-borne illness in schools affecting thousands of children, many of them resulting in significant health consequences.

I attended a hearing last year examining food safety standards in our schools and found significant gaps in how we protect our children from these dangerous illnesses. Only 17 percent of the food served in our schools is subject to stringent United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) safety guidelines for dangerous pathogens. Safety histories of the companies that supply food to our schools are not being shared with the school officials who purchase the food. If the USDA or FDA quickly announce that a manufacturer has produced tainted food, states often have no way to determine if they have that food in their schools' kitchens due to a complex web of food manufacturers, distributors and brokers. The federal government has no authority to mandate the recall of contaminated foods sold to schools.

Today, along with Congresswoman ROSA DELAURO, I am introducing a bill that will address these concerns. The Safe School Food Act incorporates USDA safety guidelines into school procurement contracts to the maximum extent possible, giving the Secretary of Agriculture authority to require pathogen testing of foods purchased by schools, providing state education agencies with current vendor information, developing effective methods to share supplier safety information with schools, allowing for mandatory recall of any tainted food, and providing districts with tools and information on how to more safely prepare food served to our children.

Our food supply has been identified as a possible target of terrorists and we need to protect it and protect our children. This is a very serious issue and we must do all we can to ensure the safety of our children.

I urge my colleagues to support the Safe School Food Act and support the well-being of our children.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Thursday, March 20, 2003, I missed rollcall votes 78–83. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll no. 78, on agreeing to the Hill amendment to H. Con. Res. 95, "no"; roll no. 79, on agreeing to the Toomey amendment to H. Con. Res. 95, "aye"; roll no. 80, on agreeing to the Cummings amendment to H. Con. Res. 95, "no"; roll no. 81, on agreeing to the Spratt amendment to H. Con. Res. 95, "no"; roll no. 82, on agreeing to H. Con. Res. 95, "aye"; roll no. 83, on agreeing to H. Con. Res. 104, "aye."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 92 through 94 on Monday, March 31. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 92 and "yea" on rollcall votes 93 and 94.

CONGRATULATING DANNY WALLACE, FORMER TENNESSEE STATE SENATOR

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, sometimes we lose sight of what is really important in life. That is why I want to congratulate a former Tennessee State Senator, Danny Wallace, for the balance he is achieving in his life.

He has successfully operated the Halls Cinema in Knox County for the past 20 years. Small businesses are the backbone of our entire economy, and yet a very high percentage fail within the first five years.

Mr. Wallace has succeeded in an industry where it is very difficult for an independent operator to survive.

More importantly, he is putting his family first, foregoing opportunities in politics to spend more time with those who are most important to him.

I want to congratulate Danny Wallace on the 20th anniversary of the Halls Cinema and urge all my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to read the fine article about him, his family, and business that was published in the Halls Shopper newspaper.

[FROM THE HALLS SHOPPER NEWS, MAR. 31, 2003]

20 YEARS FOR HALLS CINEMA SEVEN

(By Sandra Clark)

Sometimes life gets in the way of politics. Danny Wallace, a state senator at age 33, was a fund-raiser for Phil Bredesen in last year's election. You might have expected him to land a job in Nashville—perhaps even

become a commissioner like his dad, J.D., in the Blanton Administration. But Danny works the ticket booth at Halls Cinema Seven and goes to ballgames with his 12-year-old son, J.D. III.

"I'm having a ball," he said.

Wallace is doing what hundreds of moms and dads do every day in Halls and surrounding areas. He's watching his kid grow up and trying to earn a living.

The Halls Cinema Seven is celebrating its 20th anniversary this month. Danny wanted a commercial—tell 'em we'll have \$4 tickets (\$2 for kids) through April and half-price concessions. (Offer good Sunday through Thursday and not good on certain movies.)

The theater opened in April 1983. Danny has been the manager since "day one."

He laughs: "I had just graduated from college (UT with a degree in business) and was planning to go to law school. But Dad and a buddy had opened a four-plex in Halls and they asked me to run it."

Twenty years ago the Knoxville market was dominated by local theaters. The Wallaces put a four-plex in Johnson City and built the first theater in Sevierville. They continue to operate a four-plex in Rogersville.

Danny said it's harder now to make money than when Halls Cinema opened. Last weekend we were competing with "two wars and 64 basketball games."

"There's not many guys like me any more," he said. Ironically, Halls Cinema operates just blocks from the headquarters of Regal Entertainment—the largest theater chain in the world.

Danny said he'll match his seats and sound with anybody. "We invest our money back and we give people a good experience."

Danny's wife, Lisa, is a theater at Union County High School. J.D. III often helps his dad clean up the theater, making him a third-generation movie-man.

Some politicians run on "family values." Danny Wallace just lives them.

SMALLPOX EMERGENCY PERSONNEL ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I must rise in opposition to H.R. 1463, the Smallpox Emergency Personnel Protection Act, because the House Republican Leadership has chosen to schedule this bill through Suspension of the Rules, a process normally used for non-controversial legislation. In addition, they further violated the legislative process by not allowing this bill to go through the normal committee process.

By doing so, the leadership has ignored the legitimate and important issues raised by a considerable number of members of Congress and unions representing "First Responders," the very group of people this legislation seeks to protect. Because of the lack of input from all parties involved, this legislation will fail to accomplish its central goal, the inoculation of "First Responders."

If the Leadership had allowed fair and open debate on this legislation through the normal legislative process, I would seriously consider supporting this legislation rather than opposing it. Because we have prohibited amendments and debate on some important issues, I must vote against this legislation.

Through the normal legislative process, amendments could have been offered to address some deficiencies in this bill. I know that our colleagues, Representatives CAPPs and WAXMAN, worked hard to try to address many of my concerns. I'd like to take a moment to outline some of my misgivings with this legislation.

My deepest concern about this bill, as we are considering it today, is that we are mandating that states develop a vaccine compensation program; however, we are not providing any funds to our states to fund this mandate. Mr. Chairman, we all know that most of our states are facing as serious financial problems as is the federal government. To pass this bill without any commitment to a funding level is wrong and a slap in the face to our valued "First Responders."

I am also opposed to the coercive nature of this bill that forces "First Responders" to receive vaccinations within 180 days to remain eligible for compensation. The bill provides no exceptions in any event, including if the public health department is unable to meet the deadline or if a worker has a temporary illness that prevents him or her from receiving the vaccination.

In addition, we should have openly debated an amendment that increases the onetime lump sum payment of \$262,100 to families of individuals who die or develop total permanent disability as a result of vaccination. This amount is only equivalent to 5-to-6 years of salary for the average nurse or firefighter—hardly adequate compensation for a family of dependents forced to live the rest of their lives without a working breadwinner. Likewise, this legislation caps the lifetime payout for partial or temporary disability at \$262,100 instead of providing compensation for the duration of the disability.

A thorough education and pre-screening process could significantly reduce the number of individuals adversely affected by inoculation. This is the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in response to recent deaths surrounding smallpox vaccinations. This bill, as written, fails to adequately address the CDC's concerns.

I applaud our colleague, Mr. BURR, for taking the lead on bringing this issue to the Floor of the House. I also commend Mr. WAXMAN and Ms. CAPPs who were actively working to address the deficiencies I've just highlighted. I regret that we as a body are unable to debate the solutions they propose. I look forward to working with these distinguished members in the future to find better ways to protect "First Responders" from the threat of smallpox.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT ORLANDO MORALES

HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Sergeant Orlando Morales, a soldier who served in Special Operations in Afghanistan, and who died after being wounded in an ambush on Saturday in Geresk, Afghanistan, as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. Sergeant Morales' Special Operations Battalion took on hostile fire during a recon-

naissance mission. The United States and Puerto Rico lost a true patriot in Sergeant Orlando Morales. While I did not personally know this man, there are thousands of dedicated soldiers like him active in the armed services from Puerto Rico. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and loved ones, and with our troops in the Middle East. I am here today to recognize Sergeant Morales and his ultimate sacrifice to the United States and to Puerto Rico. I want to also take this opportunity to let my colleagues know that Puerto Ricans today, as throughout our history with the U.S., remain in steadfast commitment to our armed services.

I ask all my colleagues to respect the commitment of the Puerto Rican soldier. We must forever recognize the tens of thousands like Sergeant Morales who have died or have been wounded in combat. During the Korean War, General Douglass MacArthur said of the forces of the much-heralded 65th Infantry, the fighting Borinqueneers from Puerto Rico, "They are writing a brilliant record of achievement in battle and I am proud indeed to have them in this command. I wish that we might have many more like them." There are thousands more like them today, as Puerto Rico has undergone the greatest mobilization of reservists and National Guardsmen since Korea.

I ask my colleagues to honor the soldiers like Sergeant Morales and to recognize the ongoing Puerto Rican commitment to the United States Military.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013:

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in objection to the treatment of our veterans in the House-passed budget. Last October, we authorized President Bush to send our men and women in uniform into battle. Is this how we show our support for the brave soldiers who are risking their lives to fulfill their missions, by slashing funding that will take care of them after they have served time taking care of us?

Last week the House managed to pass a budget that cuts veterans' benefits by \$28.3 billion over the next ten years. This includes cuts to disability payments and pensions, the Montgomery GI Bill, the VA Health Care System, and other veterans programs.

I reject the notion that we need to cut funding for veterans and retirees in order to pay for a multi-billion dollar tax cut package. During this time of military conflict, we have no business supporting tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans over benefits to provide for the needs of our veterans.

As the conference committee meets to resolve the House and Senate budget dif-

ferences, I urge them, on behalf of those who have served our country and those who are serving our country right now, to restore funding to the veterans programs that protect those who protect us.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID LASH

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank and pay tribute to David Lash, the outgoing Executive Director of Bet Tzedek, The House of Justice in Los Angeles. David has made tremendous contributions to this vital organization and has been an extraordinary Executive Director these past nine years.

Bet Tzedek is a non-profit organization which offers free legal services to the poor, elderly, consumers, tenants, employees, veterans and disabled residents of Los Angeles County. It has become a true beacon of light for thousands of individuals whose rights may have been violated but who can not otherwise afford the assistance of an attorney.

Under David's superb supervision, Bet Tzedek has served over 10,000 clients each year, and the results of his leadership and his commitment to justice are inspiring. Bet Tzedek worked with attorneys from the City of Los Angeles and a large law firm to sue a landlord reputed to be one of Los Angeles' worst slumlords. The suit settled last year with the landlord pledging to maintain safe living conditions at more than 20 properties.

David has also maintained Bet Tzedek's role as a leader in helping Holocaust survivors and their heirs sue European insurance carriers for unpaid insurance claims dating back to World War II. In addition, Bet Tzedek has partnered with Public Counsel in creating a new kinship care legal program. This program facilitates the adoption of children by their grandparents when the parents are unable to provide care.

David significantly strengthened Bet Tzedek by expanding its 54-person staff, increasing fundraising revenue by over 60 percent and helping Bet Tzedek reach a more diverse group of volunteers and staff. David introduced and expanded a number of innovative programs during his tenure, including the Caregiver Advocacy Project, the Nursing Home Advocacy Project and the Employment Rights Project.

David has been a voice for the under-represented, the unrepresented and the unheard in Los Angeles. He has ably forged alliances within the public interest community and coordinated his efforts with talented staff at many of Los Angeles' large private law firms. Under his direction, thousands of individual rights have been restored and preserved.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking David Lash for his remarkable contributions and distinguished record of accomplishments. Please also join in wishing him all the best in his new position at O'Melveny and Myers, where he will resume his career as a full-time litigator and serve as the firm's Managing Counsel for pro-bono activities for the State of California.

LIBERATING IRAQ

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as I speak, our brave men and women in uniform are risking their lives in order to remove decades of oppression from the backs of the Iraqi people. Our coalition partners—49 nations in total—join America in our fight to liberate the people of Iraq.

As this battle continues, we are reminded of the importance of a coalition of countries that are dedicated to the liberation of an oppressed population. This coalition not only represents the impressive effort of multiple military forces, but also highlights a global commitment to removing the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein and his weapons of mass destruction.

The nations involved in this coalition are led by men and women that are dedicated to peace and freedom and understand the threats posed by Saddam Hussein and his weapons of terror. At the same time, they support the principals articulated in UN Resolution 1441, which called for disarming Saddam and removing his weapons of mass destruction.

While I come to the floor to praise the members of this coalition for their commitment to the Iraqi people and the security of the world community, I must also express my concerns about the actions of some nations that have created challenges, obstacles and roadblocks in the path towards Iraq's liberation.

Nations like France—who America liberated twice—are now questioning the actions of the coalition while we fight to liberate another population from oppression and dictatorship. Like the French, the Iraqi people deserve to be free. They deserve to walk the streets of Baghdad without fear. They deserve to voice opposition to their government without consequence. These freedoms that the people of France enjoy each day are soon to be a reality to the Iraqi people because of coalition actions.

Fifty nine years ago, 58,000 men lost their lives while liberating the French from the tyranny of Adolf Hitler. On the 40th Anniversary of that liberation, Ronald Reagan went to Normandy and proclaimed, "there is a profound moral difference between the use of force for liberation and the use of force for conquest."

While the battles in Iraq are taking place thousands of miles from the battlegrounds of Normandy, the soldiers share a similar desire to liberate a people from an evil regime. They share a similar commitment to fighting for a cause that will end years of brutal oppression and will lead to the freedom of an entire population. While the battleground has changed, the outcomes have not.

Those that have criticized the coalition that currently fights in Iraq remind me of the criticism received by Winston Churchill and the Allied Forces before taking military action against Adolf Hitler. People labeled them as war mongers and protested their policy to deal with Hitler militarily. Today, as history remembers, we thank those brave leaders and troops for taking that action so that nations like France can stand in freedom without the rule of a harsh regime.

As American troops work to liberate the nation of Iraq, we stand side by side with nations

that stood with us over half a century ago in France. On the wall in my office stands a picture my brother took of a field of grave stones—American soldiers that died during the liberation of Europe. It serves as a reminder of the sacrifices this nation is willing to make for our freedom and the freedom of others. While others may, let us never forget the principles we as a nation, a coalition and a free people share. These principles will lead to liberation and these principles will prevail.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2004

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2004 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2003 and 2005 through 2013:

Mr. Chairman, today, our nation is united behind one goal and one purpose: to support our men and women in uniform who are fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan. Their bravery and courage is unmatched and we pray for their swift and safe return.

Our support for our troops must continue even after those battles are won. And for those who have answered the call of duty in the past, now is not the time to renege on our commitment to them. We need to support our troops of the past in the same way we support our troops of the present.

That's why I rise today to call attention to the terrible cuts to veterans benefits that narrowly passed the House of Representatives as part of the Budget Resolution last week. It is unconscionable that at the same time our military men and women are fighting overseas, Congress passes legislation to pull the rug out from under them when they return.

That's why I speak again today in opposition to the Budget Resolution that passed narrowly last week. It doesn't reflect the priorities of this Congress and it doesn't reflect the values of Americans.

How can we support a budget that includes \$28.8 billion in cuts to veterans programs over 10 years? How can we turn our backs on the men and women that fight to protect and defend our homeland? The answer is: we can't.

The Disabled American Veterans, American Legion, Paralyzed Veterans of America and the bipartisan leadership of the Veterans Affairs Committee all have publicly opposed these cuts in veterans' funding and I stand with them. I support a budget alternative that provides \$30.8 billion in higher funding for veterans programs over 10 years.

In my district, I gather with hundreds of veterans each November at McCambridge Park near my house in Burbank to honor men and women who have fought for our country—both those who have survived injuries received in battle and those who lost their lives while serving their country so proudly.

I hear scores of first-hand stories about the importance of veterans programs and I cannot

sit idly by while billions of dollars are cut from their healthcare and disability benefits. Let's honor our troops overseas and let's honor them when they get home.

A BILL TO AMEND THE INTERNAL
REVENUE CODE OF 1986 TO
TREAT DISTRIBUTIONS FROM
PUBLICLY TRADED PARTNER-
SHIPS AS QUALIFYING INCOME
OF REGULATED INVESTMENT
COMPANIES**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to allow mutual funds to invest without restriction in publicly traded partnerships, or PTPs. PTPs, which are also known as MLPs, are limited partnerships, which are traded on public securities exchanges in shares known as "units." Because interests in PTPs are liquid and can be bought in small increments, they can be and often are bought by small investors. Many of those investing in PTPs are older individuals, who buy them for the reliable income stream they receive from quarterly PTP distributions.

Unfortunately, the tax code currently deters mutual funds representing many small investors from investing in PTPs. As safe, liquid securities, which generally provide a steady income stream, PTPs could be an excellent investment for mutual funds. However, the tax code requires that mutual funds get 90 percent of their income from specific sources in order to retain their tax-exempt status. Distributions from a partnership do not qualify, nor do most types of partnership income, which flow through to the fund. The only way a mutual fund can invest in a PTP is to be certain that the income it receives from that investment and other nonqualifying sources will never exceed 10 percent of its total income. Faced with the burden of keeping track of percentages and the drastic consequences of going over the limit, most mutual fund managers turn to other investments.

It makes no sense for publicly traded partnerships to be excluded from the list of qualifying income sources for mutual funds. While traditional partnership interests—the only kind that existed when these rules were written—were illiquid and not always well regulated, PTPs are traded on public exchanges and must file the same information with the Securities and Exchange Commission as publicly traded corporations.

Mutual funds are an increasingly important part of the capital markets, and the inability to attract them as investors is hindering PTPs in their ability to raise the capital they need to grow and provide new jobs.

Many PTPs are in energy-related businesses, such as pipe lines that transmit oil and gas from where they are extracted as well as from refineries to end users across the nation. Unfortunately, at the precise time that we need to develop domestic sources of energy, we lack sufficient pipeline capacity to move natural gas from where it is produced in the Rockies to extraction facilities and finally to consumers. In the Gulf Coast, the problem is that we have insufficient pipelines to move oil

and gas from the refineries to consumers in the Midwest and on the East coast.

The legislation I am introducing today would not only provide access to the capital needed by these energy pipeline companies, it would also significantly speed up the creation of 20,000 to 30,000 high paying construction jobs to build these pipelines at precisely the time we need to jump start our economy. In addition, the sooner we build these pipelines, the sooner we will reduce our dependence on foreign sources of energy.

The bill I am introducing today would provide PTPs with access to needed capital by simply adding income received by or allocated to a mutual fund by a PTP to the list of income sources that a mutual fund may use to meet the 90 percent test. According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, this change in mutual fund rules which will hasten our energy independence will cost only \$18 M over 5 years and \$49 M over ten years.

In the past, this provision was sponsored by Bill Thomas, now chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and was approved by Congress in 1999 as part of the Taxpayer Refund and Relief Act, later vetoed by the President. I am happy to take up the cause in the 108th Congress, and hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO THE ORNL STAFF
FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND
HARD WORK

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, today marks UT-Battelle's third anniversary as manager of Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) for the Department of Energy. Over the past three years the staff of ORNL has continued its dedication to scientific discovery through research and development in cutting edge areas of science including: neutron science, energy, high per-

formance computing, complex biological systems, advanced materials and national security.

UT-Battelle has been an involved member of the Oak Ridge community. The team provides more than \$1.25 million annually for math and science education, economic development and, other projects in the greater Oak Ridge region. Through unique federal, state and private sector partnerships, UT-Battelle is the leader in efforts to update the laboratory facilities and rebuild ORNL's research campus to continue to support the research work with world class facilities.

For example, ORNL will be the home of the foremost center for neutron science research with the completion of the Spallation Neutron Source and the Center for Nanophase Materials Science. Due for completion this year is the Laboratory for Comparative and Functional Genomics where lab scientists will continue the leading role ORNL has in gene function and disease research. The Joint Institute for Computational Sciences, now under construction, will lead the U.S. into new scientific frontiers in high performance computing research.

The dedication, hard work, and significant investments by the staff at ORNL has been formally recognized by the Department of Energy. This year, for the first time, the lab was awarded the highest rating possible under the lab management evaluation procedure. The "Outstanding" rating for lab management captures the history of scientific research and development excellence at ORNL.

The recent successes rest upon the decades of accomplishments that preceded UT-Battelle's involvement at ORNL. The long ORNL history of serving the nation with the highest standards of scientific achievement bode well for a future that is even brighter than our past. UT-Battelle is proud of its involvement with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and looks forward to serving the nation and its citizens with more exciting scientific developments brought to you by ORNL under the management of UT-Battelle.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUNSET RESTAURANT

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2003

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Sunset Restaurant on Sunset Boulevard in West Columbia, SC. This small business has become a living legend of fine food and a valued social center for the Midlands of South Carolina.

The stalwarts of this spirited enterprise are the owner Betty Jackson and the manager Gladys Crews, who since opening day have enthusiastically welcomed and served the public with quality country cooking including the specialty of catfish stew. At breakfast and lunchtime the 250 seats of the restaurant are filled with a cross-section of citizens ranging from U.S. District Judges to work crews on their way to the building site.

Well-known as a people's place, political candidates of all parties have made a sausage biscuit breakfast or an open-seated luncheon a "must stop." In June 1999, Texas Governor George W. Bush launched his successful effort to carry the South Carolina primary at the Sunset and in November 2002 the Sunset hosted the final public reception for U.S. Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM and Gov. Mark Sanford. Other memorable events for South Carolina officials with some broadcast live by television and radio, were held for Congressman Ed Young, Congressman Floyd Spence, Lt. Governor Bob Peeler, Attorney General Charlie Condon, Gov. Jim Edwards, Gov. Carroll Campbell, and Gov. David Beasley.

The Sunset Restaurant is a testimonial to the significance of small business as the backbone and foundation of the American free enterprise system built upon the philosophy of hard work and high integrity, promoted by limited government.